The treaty was ratified with the Soviet Union which posed the singular nuclear threat. Thirty years later, we are more concerned about rapid nuclear proliferation by so-called "rogue" nations like North Korea, Libya, Iran and Iraq that neither abide by norms of diplomacy nor engage tangible commitments toward peace. These unstable countries have exhibited the capacity to attack defenseless American civilians. In addition, Chinese military officials have publicly threatened to use long-range missiles against the United States. One Chinese officer even named Los Angeles as a target.

Americans do not have to accept this vulnerability. The United States Congress has for years expressed its desire to develop and deploy an effective missile defense system—one that provides multiple layers of protection against a potential missile attack from anywhere in the world.

The technology exists, and has been perfected for many years. What has been missing, up until now, are national leaders with the political will to get the job done. Some in Washington, D.C., still believe we can simply talk our enemies out of harming Americans or placate their hostility by giving them cash from the U.S. Treasury.

Building upon President Bush's announcement, twenty-three of my colleagues in the United States Congress cosigned a letter I authored assuring President Bush we are ready to help him make missile defense a key funding priority in the Congress. Incredibly, even though the need for a national missile defense system was proven back in 1981, funding for one has fallen far behind. Where billions of dollars have been urgently needed, the Congress has only been willing to spend token amounts to keep the research on life support.

The first responsibility of the federal government is to provide for the nation's defense. As a father of five, I am not content with America's past decisions to remain vulnerable to tyrant leaders of unstable rogue nations. When I tuck my children into bed at night, I want to know they will wake up safe in a country that values their liberty and is prepared to defend it.

U.S. defense spending is enduring one of its lowest levels since before Pearl Harbor. President Bush is right to make missile defense a priority. Weakness is no longer an option.

RECOGNITION OF STEVEN GARFINKEL'S 31 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor one of my constituents, Steven Garfinkel, of Silver Spring, MD. Mr. Garfinkel retired from the Federal Government on January 3, 2002, after 31 years of faithful and dedicated service.

Mr. Garfinkel has been the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO) since 1980. He was appointed by President Carter in May 1980 and served under each administration since. During his time in ISOO, he has become a leader on security classification policy. His expertise has allowed him to

create a system that has produced the largest number of declassified pages in the history of the Government's program—more than 800 million. This system will provide researchers and historians with new information that will help write our Nation's history for years to come.

Currently, Mr. Garfinkel is the Chair of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group (IWG). During his chairmanship, the IWG has secured the release of more than 400,000 pages from the Office of Strategic Services and of the Strategic Services Unit, forerunners of the Central Intelligence Agency.

In addition to being a member of the District of Columbia Bar, Mr. Garfinkel has served in the Office of General Counsel of the General Services Administration (GSA) for almost 10 years. His positions in that office included Chief Counsel for the National Archives and Records Service, Chief Counsel for Information Privacy, and Chief Counsel for Civil Rights.

Mr. Garfinkel has received numerous honors and awards for his service to the Federal Government, including 18 commendations or citations from President Ford through President Clinton. Congratulations Mr. Garfinkel on a long and distinguished career. I wish you and your family best wishes during your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE JONES

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American citizen, and I and proud to recognize Florence Jones in the Congress for her invaluable contributions and services to northeast Arkansas and our nation.

Florence devoted much of her 50-year nursing career to efforts to bring hospice care for the terminally ill as well as home care to northeast Arkansas. She helped to provide healthcare to the indigent and uninsured through a non-profit clinic, and served as a "hospice ambassador," spending time and personal assets to take her work abroad and share her knowledge of these services with other countries.

For all of these remarkable accomplishments, Florence was recognized this month with the Distinguished Service Award from the Arkansas Hospital Association.

A graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago, Florence began her nursing career working with the Visiting Nurses Association, the U.S. Navy, and St. Bernard's Medical Center in Jonesboro.

Florence also has been actively involved in philanthropic service through the United Way, Arkansas Hospice Association, St. Bernard's Hospice, American Heart Association, March of Dimes, Arkansas State Nurses Association, and other organizations.

On behalf of the Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to this faithful servant, Florence Jones, on her successes and achievements.

A TRIBUTE TO PEGGY KELLY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Peggy Kelly, who has been named the Santa Paula, CA, Citizen of the Year for 2001.

It's unusual for a journalist to be named a city's Citizen of the Year, but then Peggy Kelly is an unusual journalist. Peggy believes that when a journalist picks up a notebook she does not simultaneously give up her civic responsibility to actively improve her community. Her rich and thorough reporting on the people and activities in Santa Paula reflect her profound understanding of the community—an understanding she cultivated through passionate and personal interactions with her neighbors throughout the 13 years she has called the city home.

In a sense, I followed Peggy to Santa Paula. When I was first elected to Congress, Peggy lived in Thousand Oaks, which was then in my district. In 1992, I lost the majority of Thousand Oaks and picked up Santa Paula, ensuring that I would once again represent Peggy in the halls of Congress.

And Peggy is the model of why I am proud to represent the people of the 23rd Congressional District of California. She is active in the local Rotary Club and has hosted many fundraising events for local nonprofit organizations, activities she undertakes with an ever-present smile and a sharp wit. When I attend an event in Santa Paula, I know Peggy will be there as well. When she talks to you, you know you have her full attention—a fact that's underlined when she puts it in writing.

As a freelance journalist who works primarily for the Santa Paula Times, Peggy covers every aspect of the city—City Council, Planning Commission, and School Board meetings; Chamber of Commerce events; and virtually every other event where the people of Santa Paula gather. Her reporting has been described as being wrought by "professionalism, balance and heartfelt love and admiration for the people she writes."

Mr. Speaker, Peggy Kelly is a credit to her profession and a godsend to her community. She is very deserving of the honor of being named Santa Paula's 2001 Citizen of the Year. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for a job well done.

HONORING THOSE WHO ARE HELPING VICTIMS' FAMILIES

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Trial Lawyers Care on the opening of its headquarters in my district, located at 80 Center Street in New York City. As the city itself works to rebuild, I commend the thousands of volunteer lawyers who are helping victims' families start to put their lives back together in the aftermath of September 11th's senseless tragedies.

Experienced trial lawyers from across America are generously providing free legal services to eligible September 11 terrorist attack